

[6 March, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

(e) whether process of modernization of these 35 airports has started? THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. Date yet to be finalised.

(b) Reports of 25 airports out of 35 selected airports have been prepared by Airports Authority of India (AAI) through consultants.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The land use plans will be as per the provisions of AAI Act and State Government/Local Body Bye Laws.

(e) The terminal building and air side works have been awarded/sanctioned for most of the airports which require immediate capacity addition due to air traffic growth and to ease congestion.

Inadequate number of ATCs at Delhi Airport

724. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi airport is handling almost 650 flights a day as compared to 450 flights a day in the year 2005;

(b) whether flights are subjected to abnormal delays in Delhi due to inadequate number of ATCs;

(c) whether an ATC at Delhi airport controls 25 flights during peak hours, causing an average delay of 40 minutes per flight during peak hours; and

(d) the steps being taken to increase the number of ATCs to cope with the peak hour traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir. Delhi Airport handled on an average of 456 flights per day in 2005-06, and 541 flights in 2006-07 (April-January).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Both runways are put into operation to meet the increased traffic load. Under favourable weather and wind conditions, when Runway 27 and 28 are used together, the runway capacity is 40 movements per hour. When Runway 10/09 are used together, the runway capacity is 30 movements per hour. However, during periods of extreme low visibility, when only single runway is used, delays take place due to bunching of flights.

(d) Additional recruitment of Air Traffic Controllers is being done by Airports Authority of India (AAI). In the last three years, 371 JE (ATCs) have been inducted. An advertisement for recruitment of 118 JE(ATC) has been issued. AAI is also utilizing the services of retired ATCOs, wherever possible.

Facilities to passengers during flight cancellations

725. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the annual capacity of domestic airports to handle passengers in the country, airport-wise;

(b) whether these domestic airports have the minimum facilities for passengers in case flights are cancelled due to bad weather;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Central Government to provide the basic facilities to passengers who get stranded due to cancellation of flights?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) The annual passenger handling capacity, airport-wise in lakhs is - Mumbai (115.20), Delhi (84.86), Chennai (47.40), Bangalore (27.40), Kolkata (40.60), Hyderabad (28.74), Cochin (11.20), Ahmedabad (29.20), Goa (7.28), Trivandrum (4.80), Calicut (4.52), Guwahati (11.00), Srinagar(5.75), Jaipur(3.44), Nagpur (7.00), Amritsar (0.00), Pune (3.00), Coimbatore (7.26), Lucknow (5.78), Mangalore (3.00), Patna (2.94), Varanasi (1.68), Port Blair (6.00), Jammu (4.93), Vadodara (3'.59), Indore (2.00), Visakhapatnam (2.00), Agartala (4.57), Bhubhaneshwar (5.00), Bagdogra (4.26), Madurai (1.84), Raipur (1.25), Udaipur (3.70), Imphal (2.76), Rajkot(1.80), Bhopal (2.56), Aurangabad (2.00), Chandigarh (2.50), Leh (2.50), Juhu (2.00), Ranchi (1.02), Dibrugarh (2.13), Silchar (2.00) and Jodhpur(4.50).

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The minimum passenger facilities provided at these domestic airports are Car Rental, Beverage, Vending Machines, Public Address System, Vehicle Parking, Wash Room facility, Special toilets for physically challenged, First-aid facility, PCO/STD/ISD, Post Office,